School of Information Technology

Program Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENDA
March 19, 2018
H1005

• 5:00 PM – Welcome and Introduction
• 5:30 PM – Course Overview
• 6:30 PM – Discussion

Next PAC Date: November 2018
Attendees:
Ian Mulholland – Info Tech Research Group
Michael Parker – Blackberry
Ian Smiley – Digital Extremes
Jim Edwards – Chair, School of Information Technology
Clive Wright – Coordinator, ISM1, NSA1
Gayle Horchover – Assistant to the Chair
Mike Costa – Faculty
Dan MacIntyre – Faculty
Art Mackiewicz – Faculty
Stephen Freymond – Faculty

Regrets:
Scott Dart – Program Coordinator
Sandra Neubauer – Coordinator
Kevin Peuhkurinen – London Life
Karen MacIntyre – Coordinator, CYB1
Welcome

Clive Wright welcomed everyone and outlined the purpose of the meeting. Our team is looking for feedback on how we can improve our programs and better meet the needs of our employers.

ISM1 and NSA1 overview by Clive Wright:

• Content review is planned in Information Security Management which will result in updating material where necessary
• Plan to add a co-op option in a third semester to Network Security Architecture
• Proposed renaming of Information Security Management to Cyber Security Management

CYB1 overview by Dan MacIntyre:

• Three year advanced diploma program with 3 co-op terms
• Program does not include hacking courses

Discussion Questions:

a) Following a request from industry there are now two streams in ISM, both are popular but they are not easy to manage.

• Split into management and technical
• Current ISM program can be made lighter/less technical and contain more legal, audit and governance material
• NSA program attracts students with a technical background

b) Based on the program outcomes, do you see any gaps in the skills of our graduates? Where can we improve?

• International students need to improve their critical thinking skills which can be demonstrated when presented with a business impact analysis question
• These programs should give the students the foundational technical knowledge, whereby the employer can mentor the employee upwards within their organization
• Students are not “industry ready” after third year of co-op. The committee suggested that the students have more hands on experience, such as actually writing the code

c) **How can our programs differentiate Fanshawe graduates?**

• Add physical security - experience with legal issues and necessary documentation required within an organization

• Give the students the language of security, so they will learn when employed

• If a research component was added, it would give experience to the student and fulfil the aims of senior leadership (but opinion was divided as to how to ensure that the most benefit would be derived from such activities).

• Academic partnerships, Red Hat, Juniper, CIPP

d) **What industry trends, including technology trends, should the programs anticipate?**

• Moving to cloud-based services

• The move to internet-based services opens up dangers to organizations

• The introduction of new governance, GDPR, etc.

**Recommendations:**

• Learn about Global Data Protection Regulations coming to Canada

• Create a mock environment for NSA2 students that would transition from existing to secure. Troubleshooting is the most valuable skill, so provide a “broken environment”

• Incorporate a “Hack-a-Thon” where students would work collaboratively and gain experience